

## In The Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~[[C]]~~cover for an energy guide chain, where the cover comprises:~~(1)~~ has a first end region,~~(2)~~ and a second end region, ~~[[3]]~~ and is ~~designed with~~ at least one elastic section ~~[[4]]~~ provided between the first end region ~~(2)~~ and wherein the second end region ~~[[3]]~~ is, designed in such a way that the following relationship applies to it:

$$\Delta L/S < 1$$

where  $\Delta L$  is the length change of the cover with a length  $L_0$  according to Hook's law, and  $S$  is the actual length change of the cover.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 1, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ has a wavy shape.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 2, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least section ~~[[4]]~~ has waves of different heights ~~[[H]]~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 2 ~~or 3~~, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ has waves of different periods.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 2,~~3 or 4~~, characterized in that ~~the~~ flanks ~~[[6]]~~ of the waves of the at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ have different slopes.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 ~~to 5~~, characterized in that the wave troughs ~~[[8]]~~ and the wave crests ~~[[7]]~~ of the waves of ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ have different curvatures.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 ~~to 6~~, characterized in that the wave crests ~~[[7]]~~ and/or wave troughs ~~[[8]]~~ of the waves have different cross-sections than the flanks ~~[[7]]~~ of the waves.

Applicant: Eckl et al.

Application No.:

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 7, characterized in that the wave crests ~~[[7]]~~ and/or wave troughs ~~[[8]]~~ of the waves have a lower thickness than the flanks ~~[[6]]~~.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 to 8, characterized in that the wavy section ~~[[4]]~~ is provided with a microstructure, at least partly.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 2 to 9, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one section ~~[[4]]~~ has at least two regions where the regions have a different structure.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 1 to 10, characterized by at least two cover parts (11, 12), which partially overlap, where the cover parts (11, 12) are linked through at least one plate ~~[[13]]~~ running essentially transversely to the longitudinal direction of cover ~~[[4]]~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 11, characterized in that ~~the~~ at least one plate ~~[[13]]~~ is designed to have spring elasticity.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~[[C]]~~claim 11 or 12, characterized by the fact that ~~the~~ at least one plate ~~[[13]]~~ is designed to have a wavy shape, at least partly.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 1 to 13, characterized in that the first and/or second end region (2, 3) is/are designed so that ~~this is/these are~~ each is suitable for positive and/or nonpositive locking to a transverse link ~~[[14]]~~ of a chain link.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[C]]~~cover according to ~~one of C~~claim~~[[s]]~~ 1 to 13, characterized in that the first and/or the second end region (2, 3) is/are designed as a transverse link/transverse links.

16. (Currently Amended) The  $[[C]]$  cover according to ~~one of Claim~~  $[[s]]$  1 to 15, characterized in that these have at least two sections  $[(4)]$  and at least one fastening region formed between the two sections  $[(4)]$ , intended for linking to a chain link.

17. (Currently Amended) The  $[[C]]$  cover according to ~~one of Claim~~  $[[s]]$  1 to 16, characterized in that it is made of a plastic, at least partly.

18. (Currently Amended) The  $[[C]]$  cover according to  $[[C]]$  claim 17, characterized in that at least one section  $[(4)]$  is made of at least two plastics with different elasticities.

19. (Currently Amended) A  $[[C]]$  chain link of an energy guide chain comprising:

~~with~~ two mounting links  $[(18)]$ ;

~~with~~ at least one transverse link  $[(14)]$  joining the mounting links  $[(18)]$ ;

and at least one cover  $[(1)]$ , where the cover  $[(1)]$  has a first end region  $[(2)]$  and a

second end region  $[(3)]$  and has at least one elastic section  $[(4)]$  provided

between the first end region  $[(2)]$  and the second end region  $[(3)]$ , designed in

such a way that the following relationship applies to it:

$$\Delta L/S < 1$$

where  $\Delta L$  is the length change of the cover with a length  $L_0$  according to

Hooke's law, and  $S$  is the actual length change of the cover.

20. (Currently Amended) The  $[[C]]$  chain link according to  $[[C]]$  claim 19, characterized in that the cover  $[(4)]$  is specifically separably joined to at least one transverse link  $[(14)]$ .

21. (Currently Amended) The  $[[C]]$  chain link according to  $[[C]]$  claim 20, characterized in that at least one transverse link  $[(14)]$  is joined pivotably to at least one mounting link  $[(18)]$ .

22. (Currently Amended) The  $[[C]]$  chain link according to  $[[C]]$  claim 19, 20 or 21, characterized in that it has at least one fastening element ~~(23)~~, which is joined to a cover ~~(4)~~.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~one of~~  $[[C]]$  chain link according to ~~one of~~  $[[s]]$  19 ~~to 21~~, characterized by a cover (4) ~~according to one or several of Claims 2 to 18~~.

24. (Currently Amended) An  $[[E]]$  energy guide chain with a multiplicity of chain links  $[[21]]$ , linked together with joints, where at least some chain links  $[[14]]$  have at least one cover  $[[1]]$ , characterized in that the cover  $[[1]]$  has a first end region  $[[2]]$  and a second end region  $[[3]]$  and at least one elastic section  $[[4]]$  provided between the first end region  $[[2]]$  and second end region  $[[3]]$ , designed in such a way that the following relationship applies to it:

$$\Delta L/S < 1$$

where  $\Delta L$  is the length change of the cover with a length  $L_0$  according to Hook's law, and  $S$  is the actual length change of the cover.

25. (Currently Amended) The  $[[E]]$  energy guide chain according to  $[[C]]$  claim 24, characterized in that at least one cover  $[[4]]$  extends over at least two chain links  $[[21]]$ .

26. (Currently Amended) The  $[[E]]$  energy guide chain according to  $[[C]]$  claim 24 ~~or 25~~, characterized in that a first end region  $[[2]]$  and/or a second end region  $[[3]]$  is/are connected especially separably with a transverse link  $[[14]]$ .

27. (Currently Amended) The  $[[E]]$  energy guide chain according to  $[[C]]$  claim 24, ~~25 or 26~~, characterized in that at least some chain links  $[[21]]$  have fastening elements  $[[23]]$  which are intended for fastening at least one cover  $[[4]]$ .

28. (Currently Amended) The  $[[E]]$  energy guide chain according to ~~one of~~  $[[s]]$  24 ~~to 27~~, characterized in that at least one cover  $[[4]]$  is joined to two neighboring chain links  $[[21]]$ .

Applicant: Eckl et al.  
Application No.:

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~one of the Claims of~~  
~~Claim~~[[s]] 24 ~~to 28~~, where a cover ~~[[4]]~~ is designed ~~according to one or several of Claims 2 to~~  
18.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[E]]~~energy guide chain according to ~~one of the Claims of~~  
~~Claim~~[[s]] 24 ~~to 29~~, characterized in that this is formed at least partly of chain links (14)  
~~according to one of Claims 19 to 23.~~